

The Obamacare Replacement Act (S. 222)

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Since the passage of Obamacare, Americans have seen their premiums skyrocket, coverage they liked terminated, and dwindling choices of in-network healthcare providers. Many who gained coverage through Obamacare are still essentially without insurance because the deductibles are beyond the reach of low income workers. It is essential that Obamacare repeal efforts be coupled with a replacement plan that achieves what Obamacare failed to do - insure the most people possible at the lowest price.

Legalize Inexpensive Insurance Plans:

- Obamacare not only told individuals that they must purchase insurance, but defined specifically what that insurance must be. The first order of business should be to ensure that Americans can purchase the health insurance coverage that fits their needs.
- By eliminating Obamacare's essential health benefits requirement, and other restrictive coverage and plan requirements that have caused price increases, low-cost insurance options will again be available to American consumers.

Help People Save To Buy Health Insurance:

- Authorizes a tax credit (up to \$5,000 per taxpayer) for individuals and families that contribute to HSAs to further incentivize health savings.
- Removes the maximum allowable annual contribution limit to HSAs, so that individuals may make unlimited contributions to an HSA.
- Allowing the use of HSA funds for insurance premiums will help make health coverage more affordable for American families. Furthermore, allowing HSAs to be used for a broader range of health-related expenses will give Americans the ability to afford the OTC drugs, dietary supplements, and nutrition and exercise programs to help maintain a healthy lifestyle and prevent chronic conditions.

Fair Tax Treatment of Health Insurance

- Equalizes the tax treatment of the purchase of health insurance for individuals and employers. By allowing individuals to deduct the cost of their health insurance from their income and payroll taxes, they will be empowered to purchase insurance independent of employment.

Help Individuals Join Together to Purchase Insurance:

- Expands Association Health Plans (AHPs) to allow small business owners and individuals to band together across state lines through their membership in a trade or professional association to purchase health coverage for their families and employees at a lower cost.
- In addition, the bill allows individuals to pool together through any organization to purchase insurance.
- These new pooling mechanisms increase the buying power of individuals and small businesses to decrease costs, increase administrative efficiencies, and protect individuals with pre-existing conditions by giving them access to the group market.

Allow the Purchase of Insurance Across State Lines

- Increases access to health coverage by creating an interstate market for health insurance that allows insurers licensed to sell policies in one state to offer them to residents of any other state.

State Medicaid Flexibility

- Provides states new flexibilities for Medicaid waivers for innovative state plan designs.

Empowering Physicians

- Allows non-economically aligned physicians to negotiate for higher quality health care for their patients. The bill also allows physicians to deduct a portion of the costs incurred from uncompensated care.